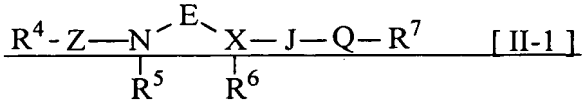
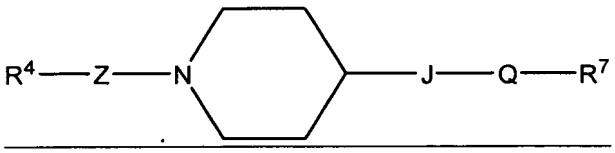
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. – 3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) An agent for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission comprising a compound having the following formula ~~[II-1]~~:



[II-1]



wherein

R^4 is acyl,

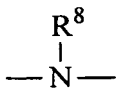
R^7 is lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkylamino, lower alkenyl, lower alkenyloxy, lower alkenylamino, lower alkynyl, lower alkynyloxy, lower alkynylamino, cyclo(lower)alkyl, cyclo(lower)alkyloxy, cyclo(lower)alkylamino, aryl, aryloxy, arylamino, a heterocyclic group or amino substituted with a heterocyclic group, each of which may be substituted with suitable substituent(s); or acyl;

Z is a single bond, -CO- or $-SO_2-$,

~~E is lower alkylene optionally substituted with suitable substituent(s),~~

~~X is CH or N,~~

J is a single bond, lower alkylene or



wherein R^8 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, substituted-lower alkyl, an N-protective group, aryl, acyl or a heterocyclic group,

Q is $-CH_2-$, -CO-, $-SO_2-$ or -N=CH-, and

~~R^5 and R^6 are each hydrogen, lower alkyl, are taken together to form lower alkylene or are taken together to form lower alkylene condensed with a cyclic hydrocarbon or a heterocyclic ring,~~

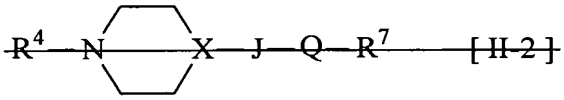
~~provided that when X is N,~~

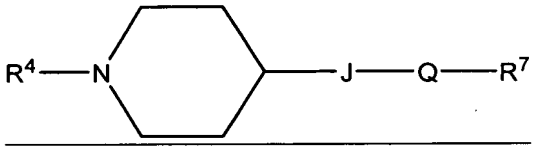
~~then 1) J is a single bond, and Q is $-CH_2-$, -CO- or $-SO_2-$, or~~

~~2) J is lower alkylene,~~

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) An agent for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission comprising a compound having the following formula ~~[II-2]~~:

~~  ~~



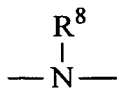
wherein

R^4 is acyl,

R^7 is aryl, aryloxy or arylamino, the aryl moiety of all of which may be substituted with halogen; pyridyl; or pyridylamino;

~~X is CH or N,~~

J is a single bond, lower alkylene or



wherein R^8 is hydrogen, lower alkyl or an N-protective group,

Q is $-CH_2-$, -CO- or $-SO_2-$,

~~provided that when X is N, then J is a single bond or lower alkylene,~~

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

6. (Previously Presented) The agent for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 4, which is an agent for the prophylaxis or treatment of one or more cerebral diseases.

7. (Previously Presented) The agent for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 6, wherein said cerebral disease is dementia or amnesia.

8. (Previously Presented) A method for expressing long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 4.

9. – 12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The method for expressing long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 8, which is a method for the prophylaxis or treatment of one or more cerebral diseases.

14. (Previously Presented) The method for expressing long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 13, wherein said cerebral disease is dementia or amnesia.

15. – 21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission, which comprises a compound according to claim 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

23. – 26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 22, which is a pharmaceutical composition for the prophylaxis or treatment of one or more cerebral diseases.

28. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 27, wherein said cerebral disease is dementia or amnesia.

29. – 30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) A method for screening an agent for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission, which comprises stimulating hippocampal slices, bringing a hippocampal slice into contact with a test compound of claim 4, measuring an amount of somatostatin released from the hippocampal slice and/or a release time thereof, measuring an amount of somatostatin released from a hippocampal slice and/or a release time thereof in the absence of a contact with the test compound, and comparing the amounts and/or the times to calculate the amount of somatostatin released from the hippocampal slice and/or the release time thereof caused by the contact with the test compound.

32. (Original) The screening method according to claim 31, which is a screening method of an anti-dementia agent or anti-amnesia agent.

33. (Previously Presented) An agent for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission, wherein the compound having the brain somatostatin activation property is a compound obtained by the screening method of claim 31.

34. (Previously Presented) A method for expressing long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound obtained by the screening method of claim 31.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission which comprises a compound obtained by the screening method of claim 31 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

37. (Previously Presented) A commercial package comprising the pharmaceutical composition for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 22 and a written matter associated therewith, wherein the written matter states that the pharmaceutical composition can or should be used for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission.

38. (Previously Presented) A compound selected by the screening method of claim 31.

39. (Previously Presented) The agent for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 5, which is an agent for the prophylaxis or treatment of one or more cerebral diseases.

40. (Previously Presented) The agent for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 39, wherein said cerebral disease is dementia or amnesia.

41. (Previously Presented) A method for expressing long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 5.

42. (Previously Presented) The method for expressing long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 41, which is a method for the prophylaxis or treatment of one or more cerebral diseases.

43. (Previously Presented) The method for expressing long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 42, wherein said cerebral disease is dementia or amnesia.

44. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission, which comprises a compound according to claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

45. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 44, which is a pharmaceutical composition for the prophylaxis or treatment of one or more cerebral diseases.

46. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 45, wherein said cerebral disease is dementia or amnesia.

47. (Previously Presented) A method for screening an agent for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission, which comprises stimulating hippocampal slices, bringing a hippocampal slice into contact with a test compound of claim 5, measuring an amount of somatostatin released from the hippocampal slice and/or a release time thereof, measuring an amount of somatostatin released from a hippocampal slice and/or a release time thereof in the absence of a contact with the test compound, and comparing the amounts and/or the times to calculate the amount of somatostatin released from the hippocampal slice and/or the release time thereof caused by the contact with the test compound.

48. (Previously Presented) The screening method according to claim 47, which is a screening method of an anti-dementia agent or anti-amnesia agent.

49. (Previously Presented) An agent for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission, wherein the compound having the brain somatostatin activation property is a compound obtained by the screening method of claim 47.

50. (Previously Presented) A method for expressing long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a compound obtained by the screening method of claim 47.

51. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission which comprises a compound obtained by the screening method of claim 47 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

52. (Previously Presented) A commercial package comprising the pharmaceutical composition for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 47 and a written matter associated therewith, wherein the written matter states that the pharmaceutical composition can or should be used for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission.

53. (Previously Presented) A compound selected by the screening method of claim 47.

54. (Previously Presented) A commercial package comprising the pharmaceutical composition for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission of claim 31 and a written matter associated therewith, wherein the written matter states that the pharmaceutical composition can or should be used for expression of long-term potentiation of synaptic transmission.

55. (New) The agent of claim 5, wherein

R^4 is lower alkanoyl,

R^7 is phenyl substituted with halogen

J is –NH- and

Q is –CO-.

56. (New) The agent of claim 5, wherein said compound is N-(1-acetylpiperidin-4-yl)-4-fluorobenzamide.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-3, 9-12, 15-21, 23-26, 29, 30, and 35 were previously cancelled.

Claims 4 and 5 have been amended.

Claims 55 and 56 have been added.

The amendment of Claims 4 and 5 is supported by the specification at page 11, line 8 to page 12, line 17. New Claim 55 is supported by original Claim 5 and the specification at page 11, line 8 to page 12, line 17. New Claim 56 is supported by Reference Example 6 (page 51, line 33 to page 52, line 14).

No new matter has been added by the present amendment.